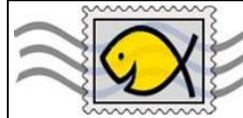


**NO WISDOM, NO UNDERSTANDING, NO COUNSEL CAN AVAIL
AGAINST THE LORD. THE HORSE IS MADE READY FOR THE DAY OF
BATTLE, BUT THE VICTORY BELONGS TO THE LORD.**

PROVERBS 21:30-31

WRITE OUT TODAY'S MEMORY VERSE (ROM 8:28)



**THIS, THE SCRIPTURES
TEACH AND THIS WE
BELIEVE ABOUT...**

PROVIDENCE



GOD CONTROLS EVERYTHING

PROVIDENCE

Psalm 135:5-12

☞ THE REALITY OF PROVIDENCE

- Not only “can” God do all—He “does” do all that He pleases
- No one can prevent God or demand explanation (Dan: 4:35)
- All things are brought to pass by God (Eph 1:11)

What reasons do we have to believe this is true?

Therefore,
God Controls everything

- Chance (accident) is ruled out (Prov 19:21; 21:1)
- Fate is ruled out (inevitability) (Ps 103:9-10)

☞ OBJECTIONS TO THIS TRUTH

1. **“If God controls everything, then I am not responsible for what I do.”**

REPLY

We do our own will. But such is the scope of God’s sovereignty that He is able to let us do as we please and yet move our free actions to fulfil His own plan. (Gen 45:3-8; 50:20)

2. **“If God controls everything, then things will turn out the same, no matter what I do.”**

REPLY

Our actions are not unimportant, but *very* important. God not only ordains the end but also the means. (Rom 10:12-15)

3. **“If God controls everything, then that makes Him the author of sin.”**

REPLY

God has nothing to do with sin (Js 1:13; Isa 6:3). The responsibility lies with us and yet our sin is fully within His control and will be used to bring God’s purposes to pass. (Acts 4:24-28; Rom 8:28; Heb 12:8-10)

☞ HOW ARE WE TO RESPOND TO GOD’S PROVIDENCE?

- We ask, not “Why this?”, but, “How do I respond?”
- We show faith in God’s wise providence (which is designed for our good), by seeking to honour His wise commands in obedience.
- We admit ignorance, but do not remain passive (Eccl 9:1-4)
- We weep and we Worship (Job 1:20)

Therefore,

We live believing that all things come from God and mysteriously work for the glory of God and the good of those who love Him. Be encouraged and strengthened as you meditate on this incredible reality.